

Use the third and fourth pages of this application to apply for a Class A or Class B Captive Wild Animal Farm License. General information and requirements are provided below to help you determine which license you need and to complete the application. This is informational only and not a complete set of rules. Licenses are governed by Wisconsin Statute ch. 169 Captive Wildlife and Natural Resources Administrative Code ch. NR 16 Captive Wildlife.

Captive Wild Animal Farm General Information

A captive wild animal farm license authorizes the holder to possess, propagate, kill, exhibit, purchase and sell live captive wild animals of the species specified by the department on the license. Captive wild animals can only be killed by the holder of the license or an employee of the holder of the license. The licensee may only sell live animals of the species listed on the license to persons authorized to possess these species.

This license is for captive wild animals confined to PENS ONLY. It is not for open acreage and does not authorize hunting or dog training. The location of the facility(s) must be specified on the application.

This license is required to possess native wild animals, non-native wild birds of the family anatidae that are migratory birds and non-native wild animals that are harmful wild animals (all bear and cougar). Possession of an endangered or threatened species first requires a permit obtained through the Bureau of Endangered Resources, PO Box 7921, Madison WI 53707.

A captive wild animal farm license is not required to possess, propagate, purchase or sell the following: arthropods, chipmunks, pocket gophers, mice, moles, mollusks, opossums, pigeons, porcupines, rats, shrews, English sparrows, starlings, ground squirrels, red squirrels, voles, weasels, pheasants, non-native quail and non-native partridge. You may not take these animals from the wild without an appropriate license. Contact the Bureau of Customer Service and Licensing for more information.

A captive wild animal farm license is not required to keep pheasants in pens; however, a bird hunting preserve license or dog training or dog trial license may be required for captive pheasants or partridge. If you wish to release pheasants to hunt you may need to apply for a bird hunting preserve license. If birds are used for dog training or trials a dog training or trial license is required.

A class A captive wild animal farm license is required when a farm grosses \$10,000 or more in annual sales of the species licensed. A class B captive wild animal farm license is allowed when a farm grosses less than \$10,000 annually.

The initial license fee is waived for an individual under 14 years of age if the individual is a member of a 4-H club or a sporting club. A sporting club is a non-profit organization whose primary purpose is wildlife related outdoor recreation. Proof of membership must be enclosed with the application.

A captive wild animal farm license is effective from the date issued through the following December 31st.

Harmful Wild Animals

Cougar and bear are considered harmful wild animals. No captive wild animal farm license applications will be approved for the possession of harmful wild animals unless the application is accompanied by written assurance that the application is in compliance with local ordinances and zoning regulations. An inspection of the pens by the department will also need to be done before any license that lists bear or cougar will be issued.

Amphibians and Reptiles

A captive wild animal farm license is not required to possess native reptiles and amphibians within established possession limits. It is not legal to purchase or sell any native reptiles or amphibians collected within Wisconsin except as follows:

A class A captive wild animal farm license is required to possess or purchase more than 5 native leopard frogs, mud puppies and tiger salamanders taken in Wisconsin, to sell native leopard frogs, mud puppies and tiger salamanders taken in Wisconsin, or to sell any native reptile or amphibian taken or reared outside Wisconsin. Native reptiles and amphibians taken or reared outside of Wisconsin may only be sold outside Wisconsin or to educational or research institutions in Wisconsin.

Other Regulations

If any bear, cougar, bobcat, lynx, wolf, coyote or fox escapes from its enclosure or fenced area the licensee must notify the department within 24 hours of the escape.

Signs that designate the property as a licensed captive wild animal farm are not required nor provided by the department. You may post your property as you deem necessary to inform others that it is a licensed captive wild animal farm.

Migratory Waterfowl and Mute Swans

Additional regulations related to the possession of migratory waterfowl and mute swans can be found in Natural Resources Administrative Code ch. NR 16 and the Captive Wild Animal Farm regulation pamphlet.

Exhibition of Captive Wild Animals

If you choose to exhibit native wild animals, a captive wild animal farm license is required. All pen specifications, humane handling, care, and treatment requirements found in Natural Resources Administrative Code ch. NR 16 must be met.

Captive wild animals held for exhibition purposes may be used in interactive sessions outside of the enclosure provided the licensee is licensed by USDA to exhibit animals and complies with the federal animal health regulations found in federal law 9 CFR 2.1 and 9 CFR 2.131. However, harmful wild animals and timber wolves, coyote, bobcat, lynx, fox and fisher over 3 months of age and venomous snakes may not be exhibited outside of enclosure or used in interactive sessions.

Pens of most animals being exhibited shall be surrounded on the side or sides where the public may approach them by substantial guard rails not less than 3 feet in height. Guard rails must be well supported and fully enclosed with not greater than 6 inch square fencing and shall be erected not less than 3 feet from the pens in which the animals are confined. Pens, guard rails and fencing shall be kept in good repair at all times and all gates and doors shall be kept securely locked. Refer to Natural Resources Administrative Code ch. NR 16 for information on which animal exhibits require guard rails.

Bear and cougar can only be exhibited at the location authorized on the license. Any exhibition of these harmful wild animals at an alternate location requires special written approval from the department.

Leased Land

If land is leased a copy of the lease MUST accompany the application. All lease(s) must specifically authorize the right to establish a captive wild animal farm for the term of the captive wild animal farm license. The lease(s) shall be in writing and shall include:

1. Name of the land owner(s) and lessee(s).
2. A legal description of the land leased.
3. The term (length) of the lease.
4. Identify any conditions placed on the lease.
5. Signatures of both owner(s) and lessee(s).

Reporting Requirements

Records: All captive wild animal farm license holders must keep a record by date of all captive wild animals purchased or obtained, sold, shipped or otherwise transferred, escaped, died or killed, and animals born. These records shall include the date of activity, number of animals and species. These records are to be held on the captive wild animal farm and made available for inspection by DNR personnel upon request and for 3 years after the license expires.

Reports: A quarterly report must be submitted by April 30, July 31, October 31, and January 31 each year for the preceding 3 months and shall include all transactions involving bear, cougar, bobcat, lynx, wolf, fox, coyote, mink, skunk, otter, badger, wolverine, martin and fisher. Quarterly report forms will be sent along with your license. An annual report must be submitted by January 31, annually. An annual report form will be mailed to you with your renewal application. Annual reports shall include the total number and species of animals purchased or otherwise obtained; the total number and species of animals that died, were killed, sold, shipped or otherwise transferred; the total numbers and species of animals born and the total number and species of animals possessed on the date of the report.

Forms: The department will provide initial forms to use for maintaining activity records by date. If you have your own system, forms or computer program for maintaining these records you may use your forms or system provided all required records are maintained and copies can be made available for inspection or submittal to the department upon request.

Information on Fee Structure

A person applying for 2 or more captive wildlife licenses that are necessary to engage in a single business or other operation shall pay a total fee that equals the fee for the license with the highest fee that is required, plus 50% of the fee for each additional required license.

Include the required fee with application.

Notice: Information requested on this form is required to apply for a captive wild animal farm license under ch. 169, Wis. Stats. Operation of a captive wild animal farm without a license may result in forfeitures of up to \$500 in addition to suspension of eligibility for future licenses. Information collected may be used for participation in surveys, eligibility for approvals, law enforcement (including child support and tax delinquency enforcement) purposes and other secondary purposes. The department may also provide this information to requesters pursuant to Wisconsin's Open Records law, ss. 19.31 to 19.39, Wis. Stats.

A social security number or federal employer identification number is REQUIRED when applying for licenses according to s. 169.34 and 169.35, Wis. Stats., but it may not be disclosed by the department to anyone except the Department of Workforce Development or the Department of Revenue.

Fees: Class A Captive Wild Animal Farm
(Annual sales of \$10,000 or more)
☐ **\$200 Initial license** ☐ \$100 Annual renewal

Class B Captive Wild Animal Farm
(Annual sales less than \$10,000)
☐ **\$50 Initial license** ☐ \$25 Annual renewal
☐ \$0 Sport Club or 4-H member under age 14.
Attach proof of current membership

+ \$20 Late fee if application filed after license expiration date.

Applicant Information

Last Name	First Name	MI	Current License Number if renewal	DNR Customer ID Number
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Date of Birth	Social Security Number/Federal Employer Identification Number	E-Mail Address
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Business Name	Daytime Telephone Number	Alternate Telephone Number
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Mailing Address	City	State	ZIP Code
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If Lessee, Name of Property Owner:	I Hereby Certify that I am the: <input type="checkbox"/> Owner <input type="checkbox"/> Lessee If lessee, MUST include copy of lease.
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Indicate the actual address where the animals are located below, include additional sheets if needed and be as specific as possible.	Do You Plan to Exhibit? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No If yes, complete below.
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Property Street Address	Exhibit Street Address
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City	County	City	County
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Township Name	Township #	Range E / W	Section(s) #	Township Name	Township #	Range E / W	Section(s) #
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Indicate the species of animals for which you would like to be licensed below. The captive wild animal farm license is for animals in **PENS ONLY**.

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|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family Felidae (cougar) Harmful wild animal ** | <input type="checkbox"/> Family Mustelidae (mink, skunk, otter, badger) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family Ursidae (bear) Harmful wild animal ** | <input type="checkbox"/> Family Felidae (bobcat, lynx) |
| **(if harmful wild animal complete back of this form) | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family Canidae (wolf) Must include a copy of Wisconsin endangered or threatened species permit. | <input type="checkbox"/> Family Canidae (coyote, fox) |

- ☐ Amphibians and Reptiles (must apply for a class A license for these species if you intend to sell or propagate)
- ☐ Waterfowl of the species approved for which you possess a USFWS permit or receipt.
- ☐ Other animal species (mammals and birds), List: _____

Species exemptions: A captive wild animal farm license is not required to possess, propagate, purchase or sell the following: arthropods, chipmunks, pocket gophers, mice, moles, mollusks, opossums, pigeons, porcupines, rats, shrews, English sparrows, starlings, ground squirrels, red squirrels, voles, weasels, pheasants, non-native quail and non-native partridge. These animals must be obtained from a legal source.

I hereby certify that the above information is true and correct. I understand that providing incorrect information may result in revocation of my license and possible penalties.

Signature of Applicant	Date
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If Applicant Less than 18 Years of Age Signature of Parent or Guardian	Date
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Approval Signature (DNR Personnel)	Date
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Retain the attached information sheets for your records.

Captive Wild Animal Farm License Application

Form 9400-577 (R 12/03)

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All Harmful Wild Animals (Bear and Cougar) Additional Regulations - Please complete all sections.

In most cases an outdoor housing facility for harmful wild animals shall be enclosed by a perimeter fence that is at least 8 feet high and at least 3 feet in distance from the primary enclosure. Variations or exceptions require special written approval from the department.

Height of Perimeter Fence Surrounding Enclosure Feet	Distance from Perimeter Fence to Primary Enclosure Feet
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Holders of harmful wild animals shall develop, document and follow an appropriate plan for environment enhancement adequate to promote the psychological well being of these captive wild animals. The plan shall be in accordance with the currently accepted professional standards as cited in appropriate professional journals or reference guides, and as directed by the attending veterinarian.

Name of Attending Veterinarian	Has Veterinarian Reviewed Plan? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
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Species: <input type="checkbox"/> Bear Bear pens shall be a minimum of 400 square feet. No more than 2 bear may be held in a 400 square foot pen. A minimum of at least 200 additional square feet is required for each additional bear. The pen height shall be a minimum of 8 feet. A tank or pool with a minimum of 150 gallons of water shall be provided when bear are not in hibernation. The space for the tank or pool of water shall be in addition to the required minimum square footage. Bear pens with open tops shall be a minimum of 1,000 square feet. The walls shall be a minimum of 8 feet in height with an additional 3 feet at the top slanted inward at a 30 to 45 degree angle.	Species: <input type="checkbox"/> Cougar Cougar pens shall be a minimum of 200 square feet. No more than one cougar may be held in a 200 square foot pen. A minimum of at least 100 additional square feet is required for each additional cougar. The pen height shall be a minimum of 8 feet. Resting surfaces that are large enough to comfortably hold all the occupants of the primary enclosure at the same time shall be provided. The resting surfaces shall be elevated, impervious to moisture, and be able to be easily cleaned and sanitized, or easily replaced when soiled or worn. Cougar pens with open tops shall be a minimum of 1,000 square feet. The walls shall be a minimum of 10 feet in height with an additional 4 feet at the top slanted in at a 30 to 45 degree angle.
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Size of Primary Fenced Enclosure Sq. Feet	Size of Primary Fenced Enclosure Sq. Feet
Height of Primary Fenced Enclosure Feet	Height of Primary Fenced Enclosure Feet
Size of Pool or Tank Gallons	Number of Resting Areas Square Footage - Resting Areas

Special Circumstances

Initial Application Initial captive wild animal farm applications must be accompanied by written assurance that the application is in compliance with local ordinances and zoning regulations. Written assurance enclosed? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Diagram: Draw Primary Enclosure, Perimeter Fence and if applicable, Guard rail. - Include Dimensions in Feet (attach additional sheet if needed).
Facilities that Exhibit Harmful wild animals may only be exhibited at the location authorized on the license. Exhibition of a harmful wild animal at an alternate location requires special written approval from the department. Pens must be surrounded on the side or sides where the public may approach them by substantial guard rails not less than 3 feet in height with mesh not greater than 6 inches square and must be at least 3 feet from pens.	
Do you exhibit? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Height of Guard Rails Feet Distance Guard Rail to Enclosure Feet	
Facilities Licensed Prior to November 1, 2003 Facilities that existed prior to November 1, 2003 have 5 years to comply with the minimum pen standards listed above. Until pens meeting the minimum standards are constructed, licensee must provide a single exercise area at least 400 sq. ft., 8 ft. high for bear or 200 sq. ft., 8 ft. high for cougar. The animals must be provided access to the exercise area on a regular basis but not less than 4 hours every other day except during hibernation.	
Does this apply? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No If yes, size of exercise area Sq. Feet If yes, height of exercise area Feet	

Describe Materials Used in Construction

DNR Use Only

This license is subject to all conditions listed above and the following special restrictions:

Approved? If not approved indicate reason:

☐ Yes ☐ No

Enclosure inspected by:	WDNR Conservation Warden Name (Print)	Signature	Date
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